

Amendments to the Drawings:

Please add new Figures 4-159 to the drawings section of the patent application. Copies of new Figures 4-159 are submitted herewith. Figures 4-159 do not represent new matter as these figures were present in Exhibits B (for Figures 4-91) and E (for Figures 92-159) of the originally-filed patent application.

Remarks:

As background, upon review of the USPTO website's Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system "Image File Wrapper" (IFW) for this patent application, Applicant did not see within this IFW record the complete electronic versions of Exhibits A-E that were included with this patent application at filing on October 20, 2000. (See Patent Application Transmittal dated October 20, 2000). To ensure that the patent issuing from this patent application includes these parts of the patent application, Applicant submits the enclosed substitute specification.

Applicant notes that Exhibits A-E include software descriptions for various aspects of a disclosed embodiment. As stated in the originally-filed patent application:

Attached hereto as exhibits are functional descriptions of the software programs resident on the computers comprising the two computer systems 32, 38 which implement the parent invention. More particularly, attached hereto as Exhibit A is a functional description of the software to implement the integrated business functions resident on the AS/400 or mainframe computer 38. Attached hereto as Exhibits B and C are related flow diagrams and explanatory text, respectively, for the software resident on the mainframe AS/400 computer 32. Attached hereto as Exhibit D is a functional description of the software resident on computer 32 but which also appears on the server 28 which creates the web portal for access to the mainframe 32 and its resident program. (See Originally-Filed Patent Application at page 12, line 29 – page 13, line 1 (Emphases added)).

...

The next layer of architecture 68 is noted in the figure as the "Enterprise private network" and is comprised of a plurality of servers 70 network connected with a network connection 72. Again, although the choice of hardware is not considered critical by the inventors hereof, Sun Microsystem's server/work station hardware is preferably used to provide the platform for running the application software for processing the various rental vehicle transactions, as will now be explained. Attached hereto as Exhibit E are a series of functional design specifications for the ARMS/WEB application software resident on servers 70 and which provide the detailed description of the operational features of the software and system. (See Originally-Filed Patent Application at page 16, lines 13-23 (Emphases Added)).

Applicant submits the software program descriptions of Exhibits A, C, and D in the substitute specification as computer program appendices contained on a compact disc (CD) as per 37 CFR 1.52(e) and 1.96 (see also MPEP 608.05(a)). Physical copies of this CD are being sent to the USPTO by separate letter as per 37 CFR 1.52(e) and 1.96. A confirmation copy of this letter is e-filed herewith. Furthermore, a reference to and incorporation by reference of this CD has been added to the specification as per 37 CFR 1.77(b)(5).

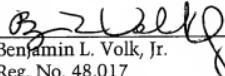
Also, Applicant has re-formatted the flow diagrams of Exhibit B as figures for inclusion in the drawings section of the patent application (see new Figures 4-91 submitted herewith).

Lastly, Applicant has re-formatted Exhibit E such that (1) the flow diagrams and screenshots included therein are now presented as figures for inclusion in the drawings section of the patent application (see new Figures 92-159 submitted herewith), and (2) extraneous graphical, header, footer, and other formatting information has been removed from the text of Exhibit E in the substitute specification.

In making these changes, Applicant respectfully submits that the specification is now in a format suitable for printing in the issued patent. No new matter is present in the substitute specification or new figures. Applicant respectfully requests entry after allowance of the substitute specification and new figures under 37 CFR 1.312 because the changes made in the substitute specification and drawings address the correction of formal matters only that do not change the scope of the claims and which had not previously been the subject of an Office request. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that no Application Size Fee is due for this patent application because this patent application was filed before December 8, 2004 (see MPEP 607 ("The application size fee does not apply to any applications filed before December 8, 2004")).

Should the Examiner need any additional information or request any further changes, Applicant invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,


Benjamin L. Volk, Jr.
Reg. No. 48,017
Thompson Coburn LLP
One US Bank Plaza
St. Louis, Missouri 63101
(314) 552-6352
(314) 552-7352 (fax)